WATER CONSERVATION
"Saving water is as easy as turning off the faucet"

We've had a very dry summer and it doesn't seem that much rain is in the forecast. Some areas of the state have started to implement volunteer and mandatory water restrictions. As of June, a moderate drought status was declared for South Carolina. Now is a good time to brush up on your water saving strategies.

When turning on the water tap, remember to not take water for granted, particularly during the hot summer months, when a large percentage of water is used.   Examples include watering lawns and gardens, washing cars and filling swimming pools. Some simple steps may be taken to save water, which can also result in saving energy and money!

There are plenty of ways you can conserve water and at the same time save money on your water bill. Here are some tips you can use inside and outside your home:

- Replace washers when garden hoses start to drip;
- Sweep – don't hose off – driveways, sidewalks and patios;
- Close the hose. Use a hose with a trigger nozzle (that shuts off automatically);
- Water lawns in the morning or evening to prevent rapid evaporation during the heat of the day; and
- Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants to help retain water.

For other useful tips and ideas on water conservation, please visit:

The Facts on Water Conservation
www.scdhec.net/environment/water/docs/dwconserve.pdf
 – fact sheet which offers simple ideas on saving water

Water Sense
www.epa.gov/watersense/water/simple.htm
- EPA offers smart water choices to save money and maintain environmental standards

Conserving Water in Your Landscape
http://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheets/hgic1724.htm
– Clemson University offers tips on how to design water-efficient landscapes

*This message has been brought to you by the Bureau of Water (**Stephan Bullock**) and the EQC Education and Outreach Committee. Visit the EQC Education and Outreach web site at www.scdhec.gov/eqc/outreach to access more information on DHEC's many environmental education and outreach programs.*